

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 28-~~36~~ without prejudice.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Kindly renumber the Abstract page as page 91.

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to comply with the sequence listing requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821. Specifically, applicants have submitted Sequence Listing pages 34-84. These pages correspond to the computer readable form filed concurrently herewith.

Applicants have canceled claims 28-36 in response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement (see below).

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's entrance of the amendments, filed January 15, 1999 and April 5, 1999. The Examiner, however, requested that a basis for these amendments be pointed to in the specification. The amendments to claims 1-4 are mainly grammatical in nature and therefore do not add new matter. The amendatory language, "region which comprised or would comprise [the interface]" can be found in the specification on page 5, line 26. Amendments to claims 6, 7, 13, and 26, as described in the January 15, 1999 Preliminary

Amendment, were made to remove the dependency on multiple dependent claims by multiple dependent claims. These amendments, therefore, do not add new matter.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has required restriction of the claims of this application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 into one of the following Groups:

- Group I: Nucleic acids encoding an IgSF domain or fragment, or fusion protein comprising and IgSF domain or fragment, vectors, transformants and expression thereof (claims 1-27);
- Group II: An IgSF domain or fragment, or fusion protein comprising an IgSF domain or fragment encoded by the DNA of Group I (claims 28-30, 35 and 36);
- Group III: A method for deriving DNA sequence encoding and IgSF domain or fragment, or fusion protein comprising an IgSF domain or fragment, encompassed by Group I (claim 31);
- Group IV: A method of making/producing an IgSF domain or fragment or fusion protein comprising an IgSF domain or fragment encompassed by Group II (claims 32-34).

The Examiner contends that Groups I, II, III, and IV are distinct.

Applicants elect Group I (claims 1-27) with traverse for further prosecution in this application. Accordingly, applicants have canceled claims 28-36 (Groups II through IV).

Applicants make this election of the Group I claims expressly without waiver of their rights to file for and obtain claims directed to the unelected subject matter in divisional or continuing applications claiming priority and benefit from this application under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, applicants request that the Examiner examine claims 1-27 in this application. Applicants request favorable consideration and early allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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